

Town of Los Gatos General Plan

USE AND PURPOSE OF THE GENERAL PLAN

The role of each community's general plan is to act as a constitution for development, the foundation upon which all land use decisions are to be based. Land use decisions encompass not only zoning, but circulation, design, open space and other factors. The plan is a policy document to assist and guide local decision makers. To be considered consistent with the General Plan, a project must not only be consistent with the Land Use Plan, it must also further the goals of all elements of the General Plan and meet the intent of its policies.

The Town of Los Gatos is always evolving with new opportunities to mold the future character of the Town, while preserving the best of its past and present. The Los Gatos General Plan addresses the issues that are important to consider in the ongoing development of our community. The plan explains how our natural resources and physical features are to be maintained and enhanced, and directs how we incorporate them into in-fill projects, new projects and our community investments. The General Plan also identifies land uses and their distribution.

The General Plan is used by the Town Council and Planning Commission to evaluate land use changes, make funding and budget recommendations and decisions, and to evaluate specific development proposals. Town staff uses the Plan to regulate building and development and to make recommendations on projects to the Planning Commission and Town Council. The Plan is also used by residents, neighborhood groups and developers to understand the Town's long-range plans and to evaluate specific development proposals.

A General Plan is a legal document that must meet specific State requirements for content. The Los Gatos General Plan meets or exceeds the requirements of the California Government Code. The Plan is an integrated, internally consistent statement of the official land use policy for the Town of Los Gatos and the Town's Sphere of Influence (SOI). The Plan addresses each issue prescribed by State law as it applies to Los Gatos. The Plan contains land use and circulation maps. It also contains text that identifies goals, sets forth policies and standards, and identifies implementation strategies.

Goals are ultimate purposes expressing community values toward which the Town will direct effort. Policies are statements of principle or guiding action that imply a clear commitment and a direction that the Town elects to follow in order to meet its goals and objectives. Implementing strategies are programs, procedures, strategies or techniques carried out in response to adopted policy to achieve a specific goal or objective.

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires all state and local government agencies to consider the environmental consequences of projects over which they have discretionary authority. The State CEQA Statutes Section 21065 defines a

project as “an activity which may cause either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment”. Therefore, the Town of Los Gatos, as the lead agency, was required to prepare and certify an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the General Plan 2000.

The General Plan 2000 EIR is a public document that assesses the overall environmental effects of the General Plan 2000 at a program level of detail and indicates ways to reduce or avoid possible environmental damage. The Program EIR generally analyzes the broad environmental effects of the General Plan 2000, and provides a baseline, or “first tier,” against which future projects implemented under General Plan 2000 build-out are evaluated. Where subsequent CEQA documentation is required for a future project under General Plan 2000 build-out, the Town must implement the applicable mitigation measures developed in the Program EIR, and focus its analysis on site-specific issues that can not otherwise be addressed at a program or policy level of analysis.

The EIR is intended to be used as a companion document with the General Plan 2000. Mitigation measures identified in the EIR have been included as policies or implementing strategies in the General Plan 2000. Additional mitigation measures not included in the General Plan 2000 are also identified in the EIR (refer to Section 2 of the EIR, which provides a composite list of all environmental mitigation measures for the General Plan 2000).

Summary of Town Commission, Committee and Board Enabling Codes, Ordinances, and Resolutions

The following provides the history of codes, ordinances and resolutions affecting the formation, policies and procedures of each board, commission and committee. The resolutions concerning your specific commission may be found in Section 5. Copies of all Town Commissions may be found in the Clerk's Office.

Architectural Standards Committee: Enabling Resolution 1995-27; establishing the Committee as an advisory body to the Planning Commission.

Art Selection Panel: Resolution 1992-78, adopting public art selection policies and procedures and establishes the Art Selection Panel, rescinding resolution 1988-185.

Arts Commission: Enabling Resolution 1996-37; revising Resolution 1988-214.

Building Board of Appeals: Resolution 2002-104 Rescinding / amending , Enabling Resolution 1991-279; establishing the Board as an advisory body to the Director of Building Services, and amendment Resolution 1996-31.

Community Services Commission: Enabling Resolution 1996-36; amending Resolutions 1993-99, 1986-21 & 1988-215.

Conceptual Development Advisory Committee: Enabling Resolution 1994-17; amending Resolution 1992-147.

Development Review Committee: Town Code, Chapter 29, Article II, Division 5, Section 29.20.455 et seq.

General Plan Committee: Enabling Resolution 1998-49; amending Resolution 1996-88.

Historic Preservation Committee: Enabling Resolution 1994-16; amending Resolution 1990-150; Town Code, Chapter 29, Article VIII, Division 3, Section 29.80.225 & Section 29.80.227, Ordinance 2041.

Library Board: California Education Code; Article 2, Section 18910 et seq.

Parks Commission: Resolution 2002-103, Town Code, Chapter 19, Article II, Section 19.20.010 et seq. (Ordinances 817, 898, 2018 and 2039).

Personnel Board: Town Code, Chapter 2, Article III, Division 6, Section 2.30.930 et seq. (Ordinance 1593)

Planning Commission: Town Code, Chapter 20, Article II, Sections 20.20.010 et seq. (Ordinance 986); Resolution 2001-001, amending Resolution 98-059, Town Fee Schedule, Resolution 2001-42 amending policy and procedure.

Redevelopment Advisory Committee: Enabling Resolution 1996-8RD; amending Resolutions 1991-41, 1994-18. 1994-9RD and 1999-6RD.

Redevelopment Agency: Town Code, Chapter 20, Article III, Section 20.30.010 et seq. (Ordinance 1806).

Rent Advisory Committee: Amending Resolution 1991-201, Resolution 1991-24; establishing the committee and rescinding Resolutions 1985-124 and 1980-162.

Sister City Committee: Resolution 1975-112; continuing the committee established by Resolution 1972-68.

Transportation and Parking Committee: Resolution 2002-102.

Town of Los Gatos and Community Directory

Town Administrative Offices

Town of Los Gatos
110 E. Main Street
Los Gatos, CA 95030
www.town.los-gatos.ca.us

Town Manager's Office
408.354.6832
manager@town.los-gatos.ca.us

Town Finance Division
408.354.6832
finance@town.los-gatos.ca.us

Town Attorney's Office
408.354.6880
attorney@town.los-gatos.ca.us

Town Clerk's Office
408.354.6834
clerk@town.los-gatos.ca.us

Accounts Payable & Purchasing

Town of Los Gatos Finance Division
110 E. Main Street
408.354.6832
Accounts Payable Hotline
408.354.6839
finance@town.los-gatos.ca.us

Business Licenses

Town of Los Gatos Finance Division
110 E. Main Street
408.399.5704
finance@town.los-gatos.ca.us

Community Services Department

208 E. Main Street
408.354.6820
community@town.los-gatos.ca.us

Engineering

Parks and Public Works Department

41 Miles Avenue

408.395.2859

parks@town.los-gatos.ca.us

Town of Los Gatos Housing Conservation Program

208 E. Main Street

408.354.6820

www.town.los-gatos.ca.us

Human Resources

Town of Los Gatos Human Resources Division

110 E. Main Street

408.399.5718

Job Hotline: 408.354.6838

personnel@town.los-gatos.ca.us

Library

110 E. Main Street

408.354.6891

library@town.los-gatos.ca.us

Mayor and Town Council

Office of the Mayor and Town Council

110 E. Main Street

408.354.6801

manager@town.los-gatos.ca.us

Parks

Parks and Public Works Department

41 Miles Avenue

408.399.5770

parks@town.los-gatos.ca.us

Passports

Passport Acceptance Facility - 408.354.6834

Town Clerk's Office

110 E. Main Street

clerk@town.los-gatos.ca.us

Planning

110 E. Main Street

Community Development Department - 408.354.6872

planning@town.los-gatos.ca.us

Police

Police Department

110 E. Main Street - 408.354.8600

Emergency 9-1-1

police@town.los-gatos.ca.us

Public Works

Parks and Public Works Department

41 Miles Avenue

408.399.5770

parks@town.los-gatos.ca.us

Senior Center

208 E. Main Street

408.354.6820

community@town.los-gatos.ca.us